



CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES (CRCF)

WHAT ARE CRCFs?

CRCFs are short-term, out of home (24/7) intensive treatment programs for youth whose symptoms put them at high risk for psychiatric hospitalization and/or harming themselves or others. Behaviors may include frequent and harmful aggression (that causes or is likely to cause injury) toward self, others or property, chronic thoughts of and/or threats of suicide, or harmful sexual behaviors that are aggressive, intrusive, coercive, and may cause harm.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Children and youth up to age 21 with [MaineCare](#) (or those under age 19 with MaineCare's [Katie Beckett waiver option](#)) with serious mental health/behavioral health needs necessitating more intense treatment than community services and 24/7 support..

This service requires that youth and their caregivers participate in treatment. Treatment in a CRCF varies in length, depending on needs with the goal of returning home as soon as possible. Caregivers should plan to participate in weekly family therapy and regular visitation at the program and at home.

HOW TO ACCESS CRCF SERVICES

For more information about CRCF visit the [Children's Behavioral Health website](#) or scan the QR code.



A Behavioral Health Home Care Coordinator/Targeted Case Manager or other provider can help you apply for CRCF services through the [statewide referral process](#). If you do not have a care coordinator/case manager, you can find the application for CRCF services [here](#).

If you do not have a [care coordinator/case manager](#), contact the [CBHS Family Information Specialist](#) or a local [Family Support Organization](#) for assistance.

HOW DO CRCFs HELP?

Treatment is tailored to each family and includes individual therapy, family therapy, group therapy, team meetings and practicing learned skills in the program and during family visits. The CRCF team can:

- Complete assessments with your family to determine strengths, needs and the most appropriate treatment interventions
- Help to understand the youth's diagnosis and behaviors
- Help develop treatment and crisis plans
- Provide opportunities in program, at home and in the community for youth and caregivers to practice skills
- Help identify stressors and triggers that impact behavior
- Help develop, teach and maintain coping skills
- Teach skills to reduce unsafe/unhealthy behaviors
- Teach skills to develop social and life skills
- Prepare youth and families for safe management of behaviors at home
- Connect youth and families to community support and resources when transitioning home
- Connect with school systems to support reintegration back to their community school
- Provide family therapy at least four hours per month
- Provide Aftercare Support Services up to six months post discharge

POTENTIAL RISKS:

- Exposed to and engage in new unsafe/unhealthy behaviors
- Based on need and availability, youth may be placed a distance from home
- Possible exposure to high levels of emotion and aggression
- Detachment from family, school and community